# Discussion Questions to accompany the weekly readings.

Submit a 1 page or less summary of the discussion questions beginning on week 2.

*To accompany the following readings:(Oblinger & Oblinger, 2005; Prensky, 2001; Richardson, 2009)*

*Discussion Question 1.1 (Due Week 2)*

What is meant by a learning tool. Can you describe a learning tool which you use? What characterizes a learning tool and how is technology related to learning tools?

*Discussion Question 1.2 (Due Week 2)*

What is meant by “User Extensibility”, and how does this phenomenon affect learning environments of today? What should teachers know about user extensibility?

*Discussion Question 1.3 (Due Week 2)*

How might one’s generational characteristics impact one’s perception of video games? What are the obvious benefits of video games, and what are the legitimate concerns? What should teachers should be aware of?

*To accompany the following readings: (Oblinger & Oblinger, 2005; Prensky, 2001, 2006; Pyatt, 2009)*

*Discussion Question 2.1 (Due Week 3)*

What does a 21st Century classroom look like? What characteristics would be necessary in such an environment and why?

*Discussion Question 2.2 (Due Week 3)*

What can be said about the nature of the video game and how it can be used as a learning tool?

*Discussion Question 2.3 (Due Week 3)*

Prensky speaks of a digital native and a digital immigrant. What can be said about learning and thinking and the digital native?

*To accompany the following readings:(Richardson, 2009)*

*Discussion Question 3.1 (Due Week 4)*

What are your thoughts regarding the following statement:

*“It’s the World Wide Web, he said.” “What’s it do, I asked.” “I don’t know, he said, it’s not finished yet.”*

*To accompany the following readings:(Richardson, 2009)*

*Discussion Question 4.1 (Due Week 5)*

Are Weblogs (Blogs) just another technology that will come and pass? What are the pedagogical applications of weblogs – how can they be used in your classroom. Give us examples.

*Discussion Question 4.2 (Due Week 5)*

Wikipedia or “The Wiki” has gained in popularity as a source of information for almost anything imaginable. Our students frequent the wiki and will even cite it for research. What can be said about the validity of information in the wiki? Is it a legitimate source of information?

*To accompany the following readings:*

*Discussion Question 5.1 (Due Week 6)*Formative assessment and summative assessment are two categories of assessment which can be used to evaluate student learning. Formative assessment is on-going while summative is intermittent. Each form has its place in instruction. Instructional models will typically have formative assessment, summative assessment, or both within the design model. Describe the formative and summative assessments which you will use to evaluate the learning that occurs from your instructional unit. How can your instructional environment use assessment information to assist and guide instruction of the learner?

*Discussion Question 6.1 (Due Week 7)*

Podcasting is nothing more than audio of some event or activity that has been placed on the internet for access by others. So what is the big deal? Haven’t we had the ability to capture audio and broadcast it for over 50 years? Please respond.

*Discussion Question 7.1 (Due Week 8)*

What are the characteristics of computer “video” games of today and how are they different than games of 20 years ago?